

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicants: EZUMI, et al.  
Filed: February 28, 2002  
For: FRICTION STIR WELDING METHOD, AND METHOD  
FOR MANUFACTURING CAR BODY

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

February 28, 2002

Sir:

Please amend the above-identified application, prior to examination  
thereof, as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please insert the following new paragraph between the title and the  
heading "FIELD OF THE INVENTION":

--This application is a Divisional application of application Serial No.  
09/915,354, filed July 27, 2001.--

10034420.022502

REMARKS


Applicants have amended their specification, prior to examination of the above-identified application, to set forth a prior application being relied upon under 35 USC 120 in the above-identified application, consistent with the requirements of 35 USC 120. Clearly, this amendment to the specification does not add new matter to the application.

Entry of the present amendment, and examination of the above-identified application on the merits in due course, are respectfully requested.

To the extent necessary, Applicants petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to the Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (Case No. 648.40349VX1) and please credit any excess fees to such Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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